

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUALA 09570 090743Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----057067 090757Z /21/20
P 080912Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8086

S E C R E T KUALA LUMPUR 9570

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT - PARA 4

DEPT RPT AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, MILI, CB, VM, MY, US
SUBJ: UPDATE OF SITUATION IN INDOCHINA

REF : STATE 224189

1. AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF, CALLED ON MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ZAKARIA SEPT 8 TO DISCUSS INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES, US-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN TALKS, AND ALSO TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TOUCH BRIEFLY ON INDOCHINESE DEVELOPMENTS PER REFTEL. (REPORTS ON OTHER SUBJECTS BEING CONVEYED SEPTELS).

2. THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED TAN SRI ZAKARIA THAT WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT A DETAILED UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA WHICH, FOLLOWING UP THE RECENT US-ASEAN DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, WE WISH TO SHARE WITH THE GOM AND OTHER ASEAN GOVERNMENTS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE PROPOSED TO HAVE THE DCM BRIEF MFA UNDERSECRETARY POLITICAL DIVISION II, ABDULLAH ZAWAWI BIN MOHAMMED (WHO HANDLES SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR MFA) ON THE DETAILED ASSESSMENT, BUT THAT HE WISHED TO RAISE A FEW POINTS WITH ZAKARIA. FIRST, THE USG WOULD PARTICULARLY

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WELCOME THE GOM'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF INDOCHINESE RELATED DEVELOPMENTS IN VIEW OF MALAYSIA'S PROXIMITY, INTERESTS, AND DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH THE INDOCHINESE.

3. SECOND, THE AMBASSADOR DREW ON PARAS 19 AND 20 REFTEL, STRESSING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF OUR FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH SRV REPS AT THE UNGA. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO

KEEP ITS FRIENDS INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AND REITERATED THAT WE WOULD WELCOME ASEAN VIEWS ON EVOLVING US-INDOCHINESE RELATIONS.

4. ZAKARIA REACTED POSITIVELY TO THE OFFER OF A MORE DETAILED BRIEFING, AT WHICH TIME HE SAID WE WOULD BE GIVEN THE GOM'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. HE OPINED THAT THE FLURRY OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY NOW UNDERWAY BY VARIOUS PROTAGONISTS, PARTICULARLY THE VISIT BY PHAM VAN DONG TO ASEAN CAPITALS, SHOULD SHED SOME ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON THE SITUATION. IN THIS REGARD HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE DATES HAVE NOT BEEN FIXED, THE GOM HAS PROPOSED PHAM VISIT KUALA LUMPUR SOMETIME THE SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER. HE WENT ON TO ADD THAT TENG HSIAO PING WOULD BE VISITING MALAYSIA IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO BANKGOK.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUALA09570
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780374-0879, D780365-1233
Format: TEL
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780989/aaaacvqh.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9c421054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 224189
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1505898
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UPDATE OF SITUATION IN INDOCHINA
TAGS: PDIP, MILI, CB, VM, MY, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c421054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014